

POLICY

It is the policy of the Michigan Department of Human Services Bureau of Juvenile Justice (BJJ) that parents/legal guardians are entitled to regular or special visits with their son/daughter in accordance with each facility's visiting procedure.

PURPOSE

This policy ensures contact with family and achievement of treatment and reintegration goals.

DEFINITIONS

See JRG, JJ Residential Glossary.

**RESPONSIBLE
STAFF**

Designated in the facility standard operating procedure.

PROCEDURE

Each facility is required to develop and implement standard operating procedures (SOPs) relative to parental/legal guardian visitation. At a minimum, these SOPs must contain the following requirements:

**Right to Visit
Youth**

Parents/legal guardians have a right to visit their son/daughter unless prohibited by court order.

Parents and youths do not have any right to an unsupervised visit.

Other visitors must be pre-approved by the facility/center director or designee.

Personal Items

Personal items such as keys and cellular telephones are secured in accordance with security level and facility procedures. No contraband is allowed in the facility.

Visitation Rules

Each facility develops clear rules governing on-campus, off-campus, and home visits. A copy of the rules is given to the parents/legal guardians.

Supervision of Visits

Facility staff monitor visitation areas to prevent the transfer of contraband and to prevent or intervene in case of inappropriate or illegal behavior. Youths are searched subsequent to the visit.

Terminating a Current Visit

Visits by parents/legal guardians or pre-approved visitors may be denied or immediately terminated when:

- A youth or parent(s)/legal guardian(s) behavior warrants staff intervention (including behavior prior to the start of the visit).
- A parent/legal guardian or other visitor is suspected or actually involved in the transfer of contraband to the youth.

Restricting a Future Visit

The facility/center director or designee will inform the director of the residential facilities division of the circumstances warranting a denial of parent/legal guardian visit.

Parent/legal guardian visits may not be permanently restricted without a court order.

Any temporary restriction of the parent/legal guardian visitation right must have the involvement of the youth's:

- JJS.
- CMO worker.
- Probation officer.

The facility/center director must authorize in writing any restriction or denial of parent/legal guardian visitation. The written approval includes arrangements for a conference to structure the reinstatement of visits involving:

- The parent(s)/legal guardian.

- A treatment team representative.
- JJS, CMO worker, or probation officer.
- Facility/center director or designee.

When temporary visitation restrictions are imposed on previously approved visitors they are informed of the reason in writing, and if time permits, prior to a scheduled visit. A copy of the notification is sent to the youth's JJS, CMO worker or probation officer.

AUTHORITY

Child Caring Institutions Rules, R400.4142